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Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
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NATL HURRICAN CENTER MIAMI FL
HQ MAC SCOTT AFB IL/DOO
ARRS SCOTT AFB IL
AFRES ROBINS AFB GA/DOT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136346

E.O. 11652: ADS - DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: OCLR, MX

SUBJECT: HURRICANE RECONNAISSANCE

REFS: (A) STATE 037201 (DTG 172300Z FEB 77)
(B) USDAO MEXICO (DTG 102040Z JUN 77)

1. REF A REQUESTED AND REF B APPROVED GOM WAIVER OF 72 HOUR ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FOR LANDING/OVERFLIGHT OF MEXICO FOR MILITARY HURRICANE RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JUN - 31 DEC 1977. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK REINSTATEMENT OF GOM WAIVER FOR THE PERIOD 1 JUN - 31 DEC 1978.

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2. MISSIONS FLOWN IN SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT PROVIDE TROPICAL METEOROLOGICAL DATA GATHERED FROM OVERWATER AREAS DESIGNATED BY THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AS HAVING POTENTIAL TO DEVELOP INTO ACTUAL HURRICANES. THE DATA ARE USED BY MILITARY AND CIVILIAN (FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC) AGENCIES TO PRODUCE FORECASTS THAT PREPARE MEXICAN AND UNITED STATES COMMUNITIES FOR STORM PASSAGE. AS A RESULT,

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PREVENTIVE MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN TO REDUCE PROPERTY DAMAGE
AND THE LOSS OF LIFE IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

3. MISSIONS ARE TASKED DIRECTLY TO THE 53 WEATHER
RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON (WRS) OR THE 920 WEATHER
RECONNAISSANCE GROUP (WRG) AT KEESLER AFB, MS BY THE
CHIEF, AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE COORDINATOR, ALL HURRICANES
(CARCAH) LOCATED AT THE NATIONAL HURRICANE FORECAST
CENTER IN CORAL GABLES, FL. ROUTINELY, LESS THAN 24 HOURS
ADVANCE NOTICE IS PROVIDED. AIRCRAFT WILL BE WC-130B/E/H
NORMALLY OPERATING FROM KEESLER AFB, MS OR HOWARD AFB, CZ.
FLIGHTS WILL TRACK STORM PATHS AND MAKE STORM PENETRATIONS
AT ALTITUDES OF 700 MILLIBARS OR BELOW; OVERFLIGHT OF
MEXICO TO/FROM STORM AREAS, IF REQUIRED, WILL NORMALLY
BE AT 24,000 FEET AND ABOVE. EQUIPMENT ON BOARD THE
AIRCRAFT IS PASSIVE WEATHER SENSORS OWNED BY THE UNITED
STATES. ROUTINE WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE MISSION LANDINGS
IN MEXICO ARE NOT PLANNED; HOWEVER, MISSIONS OPERATING
SOUTH OF THE BAJA PENINSULA MAY REQUIRE A LANDING IN
MEXICO DUE TO THE DISTANCE INVOLVED FROM THE DEPARTURE
POINT. IF REQUIRED, THE PRIMARY RECOVERY BASE WILL BE
GENERAL JUAN N. ALVAREZ INTERNATIONAL, MMAA, ACAPULCO,
MEXICO; ALTERNATE BASE WILL BE GENERAL RAFAEL BUELNA
INTERNATIONAL, MMZT, MAZATLAN, MEXICO. NORMAL GROUND
TIME WILL BE 15 HOURS. IF LANDING/OVERFLIGHT IS REQUIRED,
THE MCCLELLAN AFB, CA OPERATIONS CENTER WILL PROVIDE
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MAXIMUM ADVANCE NOTIFICATION TO USDAO, MEXICO.

4. ALL PERSONNEL WILL BE USAF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED
AIRCREW MEMBERS. RADIO FREQUENCIES WILL BE OBTAINED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH AFM 100-31. THE PROJECT IS UNCLASSIFIED
AND ALL PROJECT DATA MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH THE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE. PARTICIPATION BY LOCAL
OFFICIALS IS NOT ADVISABLE AS MISSIONS ARE NOT NORMALLY
SCHEDULED TO LAND IN MEXICO TO EMBARK/DISEMBARK PASSENGERS.
THIS PROJECT PROVIDES HURRICANE STORM INFORMATION SUCH AS
WIND VELOCITY AND DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT TO THE MEXICAN
GOVERNMENT. THE DATA, WHEN TRANSLATED INTO EARLY STORM
WARNINGS TO THE MEXICAN POPULANCE, REDUCES POTENTIAL
PROPERTY DAMAGE AND PERSONNEL INJURY.

5. THE 920 WRG AND THE 53 WRS WILL PROVIDE ADVANCE NOTICE
OF INTENDED MEXICAN OPERATIONS TO USDAO, MEXICO CITY
THROUGH THE MCCLELLAN OPERATIONS CENTER.
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SAS ID: 2722277
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HURRICANE RECONNAISSANCE
TAGS: OCLR, MX
To: MEXICO
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